

SNAP Talking Points – October/November 2025

For letters to the editor (LTEs), op-eds, social media posts, flyers, and more.

On October 1, Republican leaders in Congress chose to shut down the government rather than protect health care for millions of people. Now, the Trump administration is using the shutdown as an excuse to hold critical SNAP funding hostage. **SNAP has available contingency funding that the Administration must release now so 42 million people do not go hungry come November 1.**

KEY NARRATIVE:

- No matter where we live, how old we are, or the color of our skin, we all value the freedom to put nutritious food on the table for our families. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helps us do that.
- In fact, **1 in 8 people** rely on SNAP to eat.
- **But come November 1, the Trump administration will withhold SNAP benefits from 42 million people.**
- The Administration has billions of dollars in available contingency funding that they are legally required to use for SNAP, **but they refuse to release the funds.**
 - **Why?** They are trying to get Congressional Democrats to give up their push for a funding bill that protects health care for millions of us.
- **Our food and health care are non-negotiable.**
 - Catholics and people of faith across the country agree: taking food from seniors, kids, and working families is *wrong*.
- **Senators [NAME] and [NAME] and Representative [NAME]: demand that the Trump administration release the contingency funding for SNAP so families can eat while the shutdown continues.**

Additional points:

- On November 1, Republican lawmakers will allow our healthcare costs to skyrocket and 42 million people to go hungry.
- In the budget law passed over the summer, Republicans in Congress cut \$187 billion from SNAP – all to pay for enormous tax giveaways to their billionaire backers. Come November 1, the Trump administration will continue to let families go hungry.

- [The Administration's claim that it cannot use SNAP's contingency reserves to cover regular SNAP benefits is contrary to the plain language of the law.](#) In fact, the first Trump administration repeatedly said that contingency funds could be used for SNAP during the 2018-2019 shutdown.
- In the past, [both Republican and Democratic administrations](#) sustained SNAP during government shutdowns.
- **The Trump administration is playing politics with our basic needs, and families — people you care about — will go hungry because of it.**
- **Catholics and people of faith across the country affirm that food and health care are basic rights for all of us,** not privileges reserved for the wealthy few.
- Bullies steal lunch money, and we don't give in to bullies. We are coming together to demand that the Administration release contingency SNAP funding immediately. It's the right thing to do!

Shutdown background:

- The Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium tax credits allow more than 24 million people to afford lifesaving health care.
- On October 1, Republican leaders in Congress chose to shut down the government rather than protect the ACA tax credits for millions of us. They are willing to let the tax credits expire and allow insurance corporations to hike costs on us.
- This is on top of the billions of dollars they took from Medicaid in the Republican budget law passed over the summer — all to pay for tax giveaways to their billionaire backers.
- As a result, millions of us across the country are seeing our healthcare premium costs skyrocket. Many will lose coverage altogether.
- We are calling on Congress to reopen the government with a bipartisan funding bill that keeps costs down for working families, fixes health care, and maintains funding for SNAP.